

# Kimberton

## EPA Region 3

Pennsylvania

Chester County

Kimberton Borough  
near Philadelphia

**EPA ID#** PAD980691703

**Last Update:** August  
2002

### **Other Names:**

Henry Monsey Products  
Division

Ciba-Geigy Corporation

## Current Site Status

A groundwater pump and treatment system has been operating as designed from September 1993 to the present. The treatment is expected to continue for 30 years. In the past five years, 1,400 pounds of VOCs, mainly TCE, have been removed from the ground water.

## Site Description

The Kimberton site located in Kimberton, Chester County, Pennsylvania, occupies a ten-acre area and encompasses the Henry Company Monsey Products Division property and adjacent properties. A previous owner operated eight lagoons at the site in which various residues from manufacturing operations were dumped from 1947 to 1959. Approximately 500 people live within a one-mile radius of the site. A small stream that crosses through the site is the discharge

point for local ground water. Less than one-mile from the site is French Creek, a public recreation and fishing area.

### **Site Responsibility**


Cleanup of this site is the responsibility of the Federal government and parties potentially responsible for site contamination.

### **NPL Listing History**

The site was proposed to the National Priorities List of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites requiring long term remedial action on December 30, 1982. The site was formally added to the list September 8, 1983.

## **Threats and Contaminants**

During routine water quality testing in 1981, contamination in a private well on the site was detected. Groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethene (TCE), dichloroethene, and vinyl chloride. EPA's subsequent investigation indicated that soil and surface water were also contaminated. Soils, sludge, and sediments were contaminated with VOCs. The lagoons were identified as a source of contamination at the site. A tributary to French Creek was contaminated with VOCs. People who accidentally ingest or come in direct contact with contaminated ground water, soil, sludge, or sediments may be at risk.

Contaminant descriptions and associated risk factors are available on the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry, an arm of the CDC, web site at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hazdat.html> 

## **Cleanup Progress**

In 1984, under Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PADER) oversight, Ciba-Geigy and Monsey Products excavated and removed contaminated soil and 57 drums. The excavated area was covered with soil and seeded to establish a vegetative cover. In 1986, the PADER negotiated a Consent Order with Ciba-Geigy and Monsey Products. Under this Order Ciba-Geigy and Monsey Products provided 25 residential and commercial locations with an alternate source of drinking water until a permanent waterline could be installed.

Ciba-Geigy and Monsey Products agreed to conduct a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site. In 1988, EPA selected a remedy for ground water contamination, which included continuing the alternate water supply and installing a municipal waterline. Ciba-Geigy and Monsey Products constructed an extension of the public water system to the affected residences, which was completed in 1992. In 1989, EPA selected a remedy for treating the contaminated ground water and surface water, which included pumping the water and then removing the contaminants by air stripping. Ciba-Geigy and Monsey Products under a Consent Decree (CD) with EPA prepared the technical specifications and design for the cleanup. The design phase was completed in 1992 and construction of the extraction and treatment system was completed in September 1993. The treatment system has been operating as designed from September 1993 to the present. The treatment is expected to continue for 30 years. In the past five years, 1,400 pounds of VOCs, mainly TCE, have been removed from the ground water.

## Contacts

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Detailed public files (Administrative Record) on EPA's actions and decisions for this site can be examined at the following locations:

East Pikeland Township Building  
Rappsdam Road  
Phoenixville, PA 19460

U.S. EPA Region III  
6th Floor Public Reading Room  
1650 Arch St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
215-814-3157

Please call to schedule an appointment.